

Application. No. 09/912,134

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action of 26 July 2005. Claims 1, 3-7 and 9-10 are pending in the application; Claims 1 and 3-7 have been rejected, and Claims 9-10 have been allowed.

By this amendment, Claim 9 has been amended; Claims 1 and 3-7 have been cancelled; and new Claims 11-17 have been added.

No new matter has been added.

In view of the amendments above and remarks below, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and further examination.

About The Invention

The present invention relates generally to methods and apparatus for CAN communication systems that detect ground level shift on the communication line through storing a data element indicative of the ground level shift.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 9-10 have been allowed.

Objections to Claims

Claims 1, 3, 6 and 9 have been objected to because of an alleged informality. More particularly, the Examiner states that the acronym "CAN" should be changed to read "Controller Area Network", and has required correction.

Claims 1, 3 and 6 have been cancelled, thereby rendering moot the objections thereto. Claim 9 has been amended in a non-narrowing manner to replace the acronym "CAN" with its full text counterpart, i.e., "Controller Area Network". Support for this amendment can be found in the specification at page 3, lines 10-11.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the objections to the Claims have been overcome.

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Rejections under 35 USC §103(a)

Claims 1 and 3-7 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saunders, et al., (US Patent 5,933,459).

Claims 1 and 3-7 have been cancelled, thereby rendering the rejection thereof moot.

New Claims 11-17

New Claims 11-12, which depend from allowed Claim 9, are directed to a method of operating a CAN communication line, and recite additional limitations, such as a tolerance range for the first voltage, and characteristics of the flip-flop and its operation. Support for these Claims can be found in the specification at pages 3-4 and in Fig. 2.

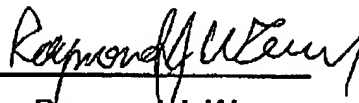
New independent Claim 13, and Claims 14-17 which depend therefrom, are directed to the apparatus used to implement detecting ground level shift during the operation of the CAN communication lines. Support for these Claims can be found in the specification at pages 3-4, and in Fig. 2.

Conclusion

All of the objections and rejections in the outstanding Office Action of 26 July 2005 have been responded to, and Applicants respectfully submit that the pending Claims 9-17 are now in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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